



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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JB Pritzker, Governor  
Colleen Callahan, Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Governor Pritzker Announces \$22.8 million in Grants for 43 Illinois Public Museum Projects

*Public museum capital grants will support development in 15 counties*

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – Gov. JB Pritzker today announced 43 Illinois museums that attract more than 16 million visitors annually will receive \$22.8 million in state capital investments to improve their facilities and develop new exhibits. The investments are through the Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program, funded through Gov. Pritzker's Rebuild Illinois multi-year state capital program.

"Our public museums help tell the story of Illinois, from the founding and cultural heritage of local communities, to our place in the world today," Gov. Pritzker said. "This grant program is making investments in local museums that will allow them to attract more visitors, to foster important research, and to tell important stories for generations to come."

The Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program, administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), is open to any museum operated by local government or located on municipally-owned land. The maximum grant award for the projects announced today was \$750,000 and matching funds are required in many cases based on museum attendance levels.

"Museums located throughout Illinois receiving funding through this program are investing in exciting new exhibits and facilities improvements that will help them meet the interests of Illinois citizens and visitors of all ages," said IDNR Director Colleen Callahan. "The museums will provide opportunities to experience the art, anthropology, history, culture, and natural history of their communities, as well as our state and nation."

More information on the Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program is available on the IDNR website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/grants/Pages/Museum-Capital-Grants.aspx>

A listing of 2020 Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants can be found below.

### Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program Awards for 2020

| SPONSOR                                   | PROJECT TITLE              | COUNTY | GRANT REQUEST |
|---|----------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Art Institute of Chicago                  | Facilities Renewal Project | Cook   | \$674,100.00  |
| Bloomington, City of<br>(Miller Park Zoo) | South America Phase I      | McLean | \$750,000.00  |

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|--|--|-----------|--------------|
| Bolingbrook Park District                                | Hidden Lakes Outdoor Educational Pavilion                                      | Will      | \$505,700.00 |
| Buffalo Grove Park District                              | Educational Gardens at The Nature Classroom - Phase 1                          | Lake      | \$246,000.00 |
| Byron Museum District                                    | Byron's Underground Railroad Station   | Ogle      | \$232,000.00 |
| Champaign Park District                                  | Virginia Theatre HVAC & System Access Upgrade                                  | Champaign | \$750,000.00 |
| Chicago Academy of Sciences                              | Nature Museum Capital Upgrades   | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Chicago Children's Museum                                | Water City   | Cook      | \$616,400.00 |
| Chicago Historical Society                               | Research Collection Facility Renovation  | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Chicago Horticultural Society dba Chicago Botanic Garden | Water Main Improvements  | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Cook County, Forest Preserve District of                 | Crabtree Nature Center Exhibit and Building Renovations                        | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Decatur Park District                                    | Scovill Zoo Herpetarium Upgrades for Exhibits, Habitats, and ADA Accessibility | Macon     | \$750,000.00 |
| DeKalb Park District                                     | Stormwater Management, Roofing, and Exterior Lighting                          | DeKalb    | \$413,000.00 |
| Discovery Center Museum of Rockford Inc.                 | Capital Expansion and Improvement Project - Phase 4                            | Winnebago | \$369,900.00 |
| DuPage Children's Museum                                 | Children's Museum Roof Restoration Project                                     | DuPage    | \$92,500.00  |
| Elmhurst History Museum                                  | Operation Upgrade  | DuPage    | \$255,300.00 |
| Field Museum of Natural History                          | Field Museum South East Quadrant 2nd and 3rd Floor HVAC Upgrade                | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Fox Valley Park District                                 | Red Oak Nature Center Lobby Re-Purposing                                       | Kane      | \$85,000.00  |
| Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance                      | Visitor Lobby Renovation   | Cook      | \$595,600.00 |
| Gillespie, City of                                       | Illinois Coal Museum: Façade Enhancement                                       | Macoupin  | \$33,800.00  |
| Harry and Della Burpee Museum Association                | Quality Museum Air for All: HVAC Project                                       | Winnebago | \$665,500.00 |
| Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois, Inc.          | Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center Campus Improvement Project        | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Kane County, Forest Preserve District of                 | Creek Bend - Interactive Prairie Exhibit                                       | Kane      | \$200,000.00 |
| Lincoln Park Zoological Society                          | Lincoln Park Zoo Capital Improvements for Visitor Accessibility and Safety     | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |

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|---|---|-----------|--------------|
| Lombard Historical Society, Inc.                      | Carriage House Expansion-Core Operations                            | DuPage    | \$750,000.00 |
| Macon County Conservation District                    | Nature Center Permanent Exhibit Renovations                         | Macon     | \$400,000.00 |
| Midway Village & Museum Center                        | Building Audience Engagement Through Investing in HVAC Improvements | Winnebago | \$112,600.00 |
| Museum of Contemporary Art                            | MCA Pedestrian Plaza Surface Paver and Grout Replacement            | Cook      | \$375,000.00 |
| Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago               | Air Handler Replacement Project                                     | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Naperville Heritage Society                           | Ag Lab in the Agricultural Interpretive Center                      | DuPage    | \$749,700.00 |
| National Museum of Mexican Art                        | Generations: Preserving Mexican Art and Culture for the Future      | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture        | National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture                      | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Oak Park, Park District of                            | Pleasant Home Geothermal Project                                    | Cook      | \$421,500.00 |
| Oswegoland Park District                              | Little White School Museum ADA Ramp Project                         | Kendall   | \$56,100.00  |
| Peoria Riverfront Museum                              | STEM Inspires! - Dome Planetarium Capital Upgrades                  | Peoria    | \$700,000.00 |
| Shedd Aquarium Society                                | North Terrace Renovation  | Cook      | \$750,000.00 |
| Springfield Park District                             | African and Asian mammal interpretative area                        | Sangamon  | \$750,000.00 |
| Town of Normal Children's Discovery Museum Foundation | Luckey Climber  | McLean    | \$568,700.00 |
| Urbana Park District                                  | Outdoor Learning Pavilion   | Champaign | \$750,000.00 |
| Waukegan Park District                                | Waukegan History Museum Expansion at the Carnegie Center            | Lake      | \$750,000.00 |
| Will County, Forest Preserve District of              | Four Rivers Interpretive Improvements                               | Will      | \$750,000.00 |
| Williamsville Public Library and Museum               | WPLM Outdoor Education Space  | Sangamon  | \$42,900.00  |
| Winnebago County                                      | Access and Accessibility Improvements                               | Winnebago | \$192,000.00 |
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**TOTAL FUNDING:**

**\$22,853,300.00**

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